

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please amend the indicated paragraphs of the substitute specification in accordance with the amendments indicated below.

Page 4: 1<sup>st</sup> full paragraph, amend as indicated below:

The pressure-sensitive adhesive coating may be applied ~~flatly~~ areally, i.e., in a planar manner over the entire surface of the backing layer. However, a pressure-sensitive adhesive coating arranged substantially in the form of stripes on the surfaces, with adhesive-free spaces in between, is also possible. The combination of two-dimensional application and striped application on one of the surfaces, or the combination thereof on one of the surfaces, is likewise possible.

Page 7, 2<sup>nd</sup> full paragraph, amend as indicated below:

The pressure-sensitive adhesive coating may be applied ~~flatly~~ areally, i.e., in a planar manner over the entire surface of the backing layer. However, a pressure-sensitive adhesive coating arranged substantially in the form of stripes on the surfaces, with adhesive-free spaces in between, is also possible. The combination of two-dimensional application and striped application on one of the surfaces, or the combination thereof on one of the surfaces, is likewise possible.

The stated adhesive application rates relate in one of these cases only to the surface regions provided with a pressure-sensitive adhesive coating.